

A007 Employment Standards/Prevailing Wage

The state of Washington has a long tradition of protecting its workers, passing its first minimum wage laws in 1913. The Employment Standards program continues the tradition by promoting and enforcing fair labor practices and taking actions for employees who are not paid an appropriate and fair wage for the hours worked. Employers in the state must abide by rules and regulations concerning wage payments, working conditions, family care, and farm labor contractors. By providing statutory guidance in regards to our state's labor laws, L&I helps to keep many issues from reaching a costly litigious stage. The program's industrial relations agents act as the primary points of contact for workers who have not been fairly compensated for work performed. The program emphasizes and targets its compliance services towards vulnerable, low-wage workers. In addition, the program's goal is that minors in the workplace are safe and not performing specific prohibited duties. It accomplishes this by inspections, education, and issuance of minor work permits to employers of minors in well-defined limited circumstances. The Prevailing Wage program establishes prevailing wages and uses outreach and enforcement to promote these wages being paid on public works projects.

	FY 2006	FY 2007	Biennial Total
FTE's	44.8	42.0	43.4
GFS	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$3,486,909	\$3,442,396	\$6,929,305
Total	\$3,486,909	\$3,442,396	\$6,929,305

Statewide Result Area: Improve the economic vitality of businesses and individuals**Expected Results**

Investigating 5,000 wage claims from employees, and other referral sources, each year. These investigations result in the collection of wages for workers. Collecting \$3 million a year in unpaid wages for workers, of which more than \$1 million is collected for low-wage workers. Issuing 30,000 minor work permits and variances to employers annually. These permits promote protections for more than 100,000 minors. Issuing penalties for child labor, minimum wage, family-care, farm labor, and prevailing wage violations. Establishing and publishing prevailing wage rates for construction-related trades in each county through wage surveys and scope-of-work analyses. Timely processing of 70,000 intents and affidavits within seven days to verify and ensure appropriate prevailing wages are paid in over 3,000 job types in public works projects, contributing over \$4.6 billion to the Washington State economy.

Appropriation Period: 2005-07 Activity Version: F2 - 2005-07 Activity Recast

Number of wage claims and complaints closed.				
Biennium	Period	Target	Actual	Variance
2005-07	8th Qtr	5,000	0	(5,000)
	4th Qtr	5,000	0	(5,000)
2003-05	8th Qtr	5,000	1,030	(3,970)
	7th Qtr	0	938	938
	6th Qtr	0	1,148	1,148
	5th Qtr	0	1,044	1,044

Total dollars in unpaid wages collected for workers.				
Biennium	Period	Target	Actual	Variance
2005-07	8th Qtr	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$(1,500,000)
	4th Qtr	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$(1,500,000)
2003-05	8th Qtr	\$750,000	\$1,080,488	\$330,488
	7th Qtr	\$750,000	\$953,943	\$203,943
	6th Qtr	\$750,000	\$605,263	\$(144,737)
	5th Qtr	\$750,000	\$665,382	\$(84,618)